## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

USA

Plaintiff

CIVIL NO. 97-1683 (JAG)

v.

One Urban Lot 10181, et al

Defendants

#### TRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER

The Court issues this Trial Scheduling Order to lay out and

achieve a just, speedy and inexpensive conclusion of this action. The Court expects that counsel will be mindful that, as officers of the Court, they are duty-bound to conduct themselves with utmost civility and professionalism to each other and the Court; and to faithfully adhere to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Court's Local Rules. Accordingly, the parties will file a Pretrial Order by JULY 18, 2002. It shall include all of the disclosures required by amended Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(a)(3). The parties shall file a courtesy copy with the Court. This Order is essential for fruitful settlement efforts, as well as for trial preparation. Therefore, the Court will grant no extensions to this deadline.

Furthermore, Pre-Trial and Settlement Conference is hereby

set for AUGUST 5, 2002 at 4:00 PM. Counsel must meet at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the Pre-Trial and Settlement Conference to discuss the contents of the Pre-Trial Order and the possibility of settlement. If settlement is not possible, the parties will cover during their meeting the designation and marking of exhibits and depositions, and, if necessary, the proposed voir dire and jury instructions. The Pre-Trial Order may be modified only by the Court, in order to prevent manifest injustice.

The Pre-Trial Order must conform to the requirements set forth in Local Rule 314(3. In addition to the requirements set forth in Local Rule 314(3), the Pretrial Order must contain:

#### a. Itemized Statement of Special Damages

Any party claiming special damages must include a statement detailing the reason and the amount claimed for each. Any party that disagrees with the proposed statement of special damages must specifically state the basis for its opposition. Any special damages not detailed in the Joint Pretrial Order shall be deemed waived.

#### b. Settlement Discussions

#### Certification

All counsel must certify that they "explored the

possibility of settling this case fully." The inclusion of this statement must reflect a true and honest effort to settle the case.

The Court will explore settlement prospects at the Pre-Trial and Settlement Conference, because it believes that extrajudicial resolution of disputes is the most efficient and effective way to end litigation. To that end, counsel must have their clients available by telephone or in person for immediate consultation during the Pre-Trial and Settlement Conference.

All motions in limine must be filed at least ten (10) days prior to the Pre-Trial and Settlement Conference. Any such motions filed after that date will be untimely and will not be considered by the Court.

Finally, Trial in this matter shall be held on AUGUST 26,

2002 at 9:30 AM. At least ten (10) working days before the date
scheduled for the trial, the parties will meet, after having
requested the appropriate appointment, with the Courtroom Deputy
Clerk assigned to the presiding judge to mark all evidence
according to the designation used in the Pretrial Order.
Objected documentary or real evidence will be marked as documents
for identification. All exhibits must be officially translated
into English before they are marked. This includes any

deposition transcripts or parts thereof that will be used at trial whether as evidence or for impeachment purposes. The Court will strictly enforce this translation requirement and will not admit any exhibit not in English language.

In this respect, the parties are forewarned that this process cannot be pro forma. If at trial the presiding judge becomes aware of the fact that the parties did not engage in a meaningful marking of exhibits' process in light of the Federal Rules of Evidence, appropriate sanctions will be taken against counsel. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 1 and 20 U.S.C. § 1927.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, this 3rd of June, 2002.

### NOTICE TO ALL COUNSEL OF RECORD

You are instructed to hold a meeting among yourselves to mark the exhibits and prepare an exhibit list.

Attached you will find an example of the exhibit list form. You must deliver your exhibits and identifications, along with the **typed** list, to me at least two weeks before the date of the trial. **Each party is to prepare its own** separate list. If there are any joint exhibits, a separate list for them is also to be prepared. The exhibits for the plaintiff(s) are to be marked with <u>numbers</u>, those for the defendant(s) with <u>letters</u>, and the joint exhibits with <u>Roman numerals</u>.

In filling out the forms, leave the boxes for the dates empty. I will fill them in on the first day of trial. In the "marked" box you are to indicate "E" for exhibit or "ID" for identification. If and when the Court admits an identification, and it becomes an exhibit, I will indicate in the "Admitted" box the appropriate date. Provide a short description of the exhibit. You do not have to identify the witness that you will use to present it.

If you have any questions on how to fill in the forms, please call me at 787-772-3048.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

LILY ALICEA
Courtroom Deputy Clerk

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

### **EXHIBIT LIST**

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